

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATIONIN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 8 and 9 with the following amended paragraph:

Consistent with the present invention, optical power transient control is provided for each of the channel groups provided or added in the OADM. With reference to the channel group λ_1 - λ_8 , for example, in the illustrated embodiment a conventional optical power monitor 26 26₁ is coupled to the optical path 18 18₁ carrying λ_1 - λ_8 for providing a signal representative of the optical signal power of the channel group. The output of the monitor 26 26₁ is coupled to a detector 28 28₁ for providing fault alarms to the network components for fault detection and isolation. The power monitor output is coupled through the detector to a control circuit 30 30₁. The control circuit 30 30₁ drives an idler laser 32 32₁ for providing a compensating wavelength having a power level based on the output of the power monitor 26 26₁. The output of the idler laser 32 32₁ may be coupled to a data modulator 34 34₁ for modulation of a low frequency data on thereon, and the compensating wavelength with data modulated thereon is injected into the optical path 18 18₁ before the multiplexer 16 at a downstream location from the power monitor point, e.g. point P. A calibrated length of fiber 35 35₁ may be added to the signal path to make the path time delay

substantially equal to the delay through the electronic path comprised of 26 26₁, 28 28₁, 30 30₁, 32 32₁, and 34 34₁. The remaining optical paths to be passed through the OADM, e.g. paths 22, 22a, include associated power monitors 26 26_n, detectors 28 28_n, control circuits 30 30_n, idler lasers 32 32_n, data modulators 34 34_n, and delay equalizers 35 35_n.
